

3 January 1982  
MJN-8201

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Jordan Bureau Monthly Report - December 1981

I. GENERAL

A. Three incidents contributed to enhanced Embassy security during the month: 1) the U.S. decision to extradite Jordanian citizen Abu 'Ayn to Israel to stand trial on charges of terrorism, 2) the annexation of the Golan Heights by Israel, and 3), the blowing up of the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut. As a result, local security forces prohibited all vehicles from parking in the rear of the Embassy and directly in front of FBIS. Embassy shuttle runs were also halted until after the New Year as a precautionary measure. Americans weren't the only ones affected, however. Rumors of possible Syrian bombings and actual telephoned bomb threats to the major hotels in Amman in the name of the Muslim Brotherhood led many citizens to cancel their private parties and resulted in greatly reduced attendance at the hotels' New Year festivities.

B. Ambassador Viets met with the "wife" of accused terrorist Abu 'Ayn to receive a petition from her requesting guarantees for the safety of her husband and U.S. assistance in visiting him in his Israeli prison. Since the meeting, serious doubts have arisen as to the woman's actual relationship to the accused, with Abu 'Ayn himself denying that he was ever married to her. In any event, the Israeli authorities have refused her permission to visit him.

C. Presidential envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib visited the Embassy during his brief stopover in Jordan 3 and 4 December to brief King Husayn on the progress of his peace efforts in the area.

D. The Bureau Chief met briefly with Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, during the Senator's 30 December-2 January visit to the country while on a fact-finding tour of the Middle East. The Senator immediately revealed his familiarity with FBIS by asking if we were going to send a reporter to cover his airport predeparture press conference. The Bureau did provide him with all area media reportage on his visit.

*(his aide used for work for 1/2 day)*